

Dear Chairman Powell and Commissioners,
If broadcasters fulfilled their public interest requirement by providing more hours of political, civic, and electoral affairs programming, then politicians and aspiring politicians would not be as encumbered by fundraising and marketing concerns in getting their messages out. It would be a step in the right direction towards eliminating the importance of money in marketing a campaign--and besides, it's a compact the broadcasters have already signed.

Since broadcasters have clearly failed in their obligation to serve the public interest, the FCC should define meaningful public interest requirements that include local civic and electoral affairs programming. At a minimum, broadcasters should air three hours per week of local civic and electoral affairs programming, with at least two hours devoted to substantive election coverage in the six weeks prior to Election Day.

As the elections approach, a well-functioning democracy demands that citizens have access to a diversity of opinions and voices on the choices confronting us.

Sincerely,

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